Applicants:

Christine L. Brakel, et al.

Serial No.:

08/479,999

Filed:

June 28, 1994

(Response to March 31, 1998 Office Action and

Request for Three-Month Extension of Time) - September 30, 1998

## **AMENDMENTS**

Please amend the subject application as set forth below.

## In The Specification

In the first sentence following the title, after "December 4, 1989", insert - - now abandoned. - -

## In The Claims

Kindly amend claims 1, 21, 42, and 50 to read as follows:

Mark Twice Amended) A modified nucleotide compound which includes at least one component selected from the group consisting of MN<sub>2</sub>M, N (N)<sub>2</sub>M and M(N)<sub>2</sub>B wherein:

> N is a phosphodiester-linked modified or unmodified 2'-deoxynucleoside moiety; provided that at least one N is a phosphodiester-linked unmodified 2' deoxynucleoside moiety;

> M is a moiety that confers endonuclease resistance on said component and that contains at least one modified or unmodified nucleic acid base; B is a moiety that confers exonuclease resistance to the terminus to which

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it is attached;

x is an integer of at least 2.

21. (Twice Amended) A method of inhibiting the function of an RNA, which comprises: contacting said RNA, under conditions permissive of hybridization, with a modified nucleotide compound which includes at least one complimentary component selected from the group consisting of MN<sub>3</sub>M, B(N)<sub>x</sub>M and M(N)<sub>x</sub>B wherein:

> N is a phosphodiester-linked modified or unmodified 2'-deoxynucleoside moiety; provided that at least one N is a phosphodiester-linked unmodified 2' deoxynucleoside moiety;

> M is a moiety that confers endonuclease resistance on said component and that contains at least one modified or unmodified nucleic acid base; B is a moiety that confers exonuclease resistance to the terminus to which

it is attached;

x is an integer of at least 2.

42 (Amended) A compound containing at least 1 exonuclease and endonuclease resistant component consisting of 2 or more contiguous phosphodiester-linked 2'